VIZ GRAPHIC NOVEL

BAOH™

VOLUME TWO

STORY AND ART BY
HIROHIKO ARAKI

BAOH™

2

STORY AND ART BY
Hirohiko Araki

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This volume contains BAOH #5 through #8 in their entirety

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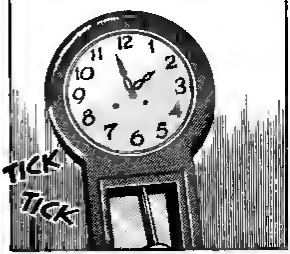
Chapter 1

The Darkening of the Senses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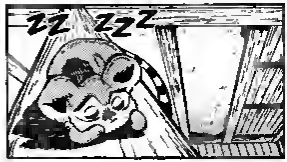
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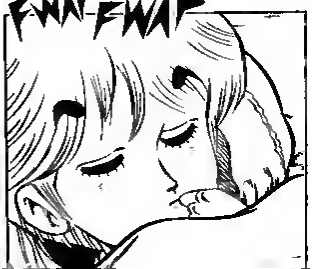
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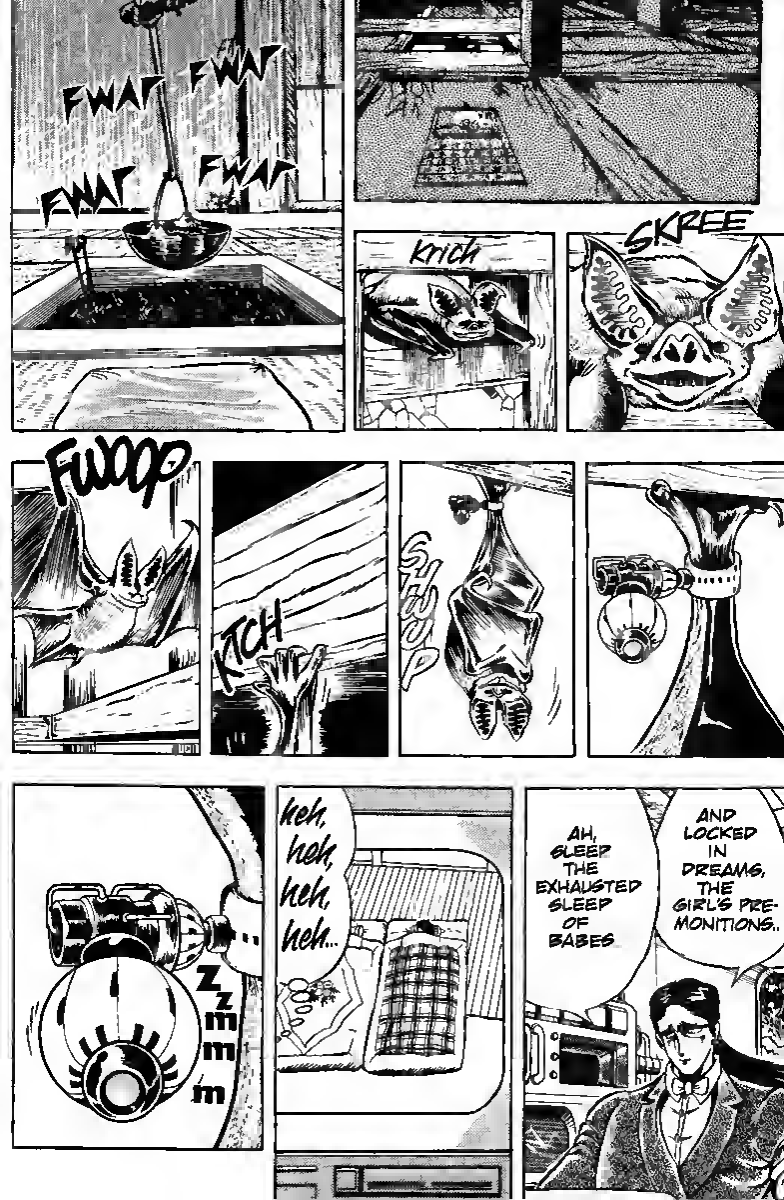
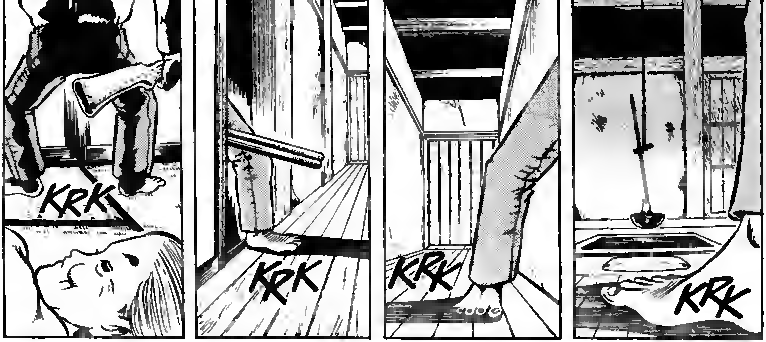

FWAP FWAP
FWAP FWAP
krich
SKREE
FWOOP
KICH
SHUP
Zzmmm
heh, heh, heh, heh...
AH, SLEEP THE EXHAUSTED SLEEP OF BABES
AND LOCKED IN DREAMS, THE GIRL'S PRE-MONITIONS..

...WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROTECT GAOH FROM DEATH!
BONG
AND NOW THE CLOCK STRIKES TWICE...
...THE OLD MAN IS BACK UNDER MY HYPNOTIC CONTROL...
AND IKURO HASHIZAWA'S AMIABLE OLD HOST...
...WILL SPLATTER HIS BRAINS WITH A SHOTGUN!
BONG
KLIK
SNAP
K-REEK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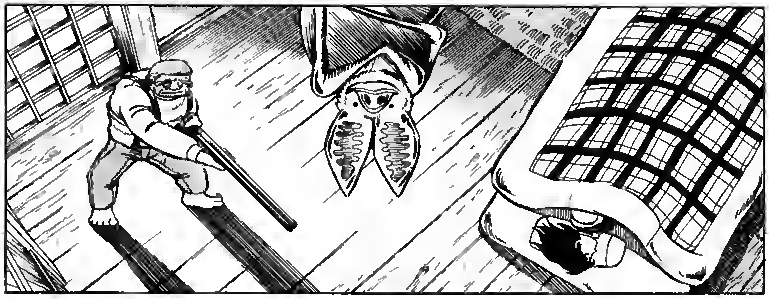
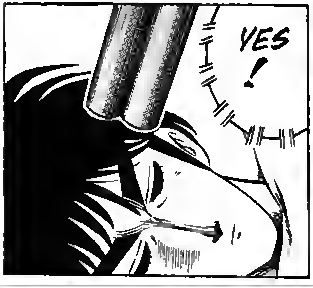



YES!

FINGER ON THE TRIGGER, GENTLY...

STEADY, NOW...

YIP
GRAK
YI YI YI!
EEEEEE!
"MMMM"
WHA ?!
AEEEE!
KABLAM!

BLAM
KRAK
ZZZIT
SO, IT FAILED.
SENDING IN THE BAT WITH THE CAMERA SEEMED SUCH A GOOD IDEA.
PITY, REALLY.
SKE SKE
NOW I HAVE NO CHOICE
OPERATION SENSORY DEPRIVATION WILL HAVE TO PROCEED!

WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
NO...! COULD THIS BE JUDAS'S DOING? BUT, HOW...?
NO! PLEASE, OLD MAN! FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY..
...DON'T LET ME SEE YOUR DESIRE TO KILL!
P...PA?
VIOLET! GET AWAY FROM ME!
BUT..!
IKURO!
BLAM

WHAM
SHICK
chk
WHUSH!
PA!
WHAT.. WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM..?
KRIK POCK
KRIK POCK
Huh..?
KRIK KRIK POCK

POCK
POCK
POCK
POCK
SASWASTH
IT--
IT'S A
MONSTER
!
YOU
BASTARD!
SO
YOU'RE
STILL
ALIVE--!
BLAM
WAM WAM
WAM

BAROOOO
SCRONCH
SKRNCH
SKRNCH
SKRNCH
BAROOO
IKURO, STOP! IT'S A MISTAKE!
AND ONCE AGAIN, THE AMALGAM KNOWN AS BAOH EXPERIENCED THOUGHT...!
"IT'S WRONG! THIS ISN'T THE 'SMELL'!"

THE "SMELL" IT HATED SO MUCH WAS NOT BEING EMITTED FROM THE OLD MAN!
WHA? WHAT'S HAPPENING?
"THIS LIVING BEING IS NOT MY ENEMY!" IT THOUGHT. "THE ENEMY IS IN A DIFFERENT PLACE!"
"IT'S FROM THE OUTSIDE! FROM ABOVE!
WSHHH
KAKRESH!
WHAT IS THIS THING? WHAT HAVE I BEEN DOING?
"HE'S THERE! MY TRUE ENEMY IS HIDING! ON THE ROOF!"

BOOSH!
BA ROOO!
SO, YOU'VE COME...
YOU DON'T ACT, DO YOU? YOU ONLY REACT. THE PRESENCE OF THAT LETHAL 'SMELL' RULES YOUR ATTACK...
SKREE
SKREE
SKREE
BUT MY AROMA BATS WILL CHANGE THAT!
THESE BATS ARE CONTROLLED BY THE SUPERSONIC WAVES EMITTED FROM MY ARM...

FWSSS
THE SPECIAL AROMA EMITTED BY THESE BATS WILL PARALYSE YOUR EXTRASENSORY ORGAN...
FWA
FWA
Heh, heh...
...HOW ABOUT IT?
TELL ME WHERE I AM. ATTACK ME!
FWSH
?!
YOUR LAST STAB AT RESISTANCE IS FUTILE!
NO, YOU CAN'T. NOT ANYMORE. THE BAOH PARASITE DISABLES YOUR NORMAL HUMAN SENSES-- AND NOW I'VE CRIPPLED ITS SENSE OF "TOUCH". DEATH HAS CAUGHT UP WITH YOU AT LAST.
WHUD!

IKURO!
HOLD IT!
CHIK
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON MY LAND !?
I'VE BEEN SENT BY THE STATE OFFICE.

YOU SEE, THE BOY IS SUFFERING FROM A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE. SO IS THE YOUNG GIRL, THOUGH THE SYMPTOMS ARE NOT YET AS PRONOUNCED.
JUST LOOK AT THE BOY! HIS CONDITION IS MONSTROUS!
IS THIS TRUE..?
YOU..
..YOU LIAR! YOU CAME AFTER US SO YOU COULD KILL US! GO AWAY!
BUT WEREN'T YOU HYPNOTIZED? ANOTHER OF THE BOY'S TRICKS
LIAR! LEAVE US ALONE!
DON'T COME NEAR ME, GIRL!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION. I'LL JUST ADMINISTER THE ANTI-DOTE TO HIM...

BLAM!!
KRESH!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
BASTARD! DON'T MAKE ANY FUNNY MOVES!
LITTLE LADY, YOU CAN STOP CRYING NOW.
I'M ON YOUR SIDE-- BUT I'VE GOT TO SHOOT AGAIN, SO STEP OUT OF THE WAY!
GR-GRANDPA!
PA, PLEASE! PLEASE DON'T GET INVOLVED WITH THESE CHILDREN!
YOU FOOL, THESE CHILDREN ARE MY GUESTS!

THE BOY MAY WELL BE SUFFERING FROM AN UNKNOWN DISEASE.
...BUT HE IS AN INVITED GUEST OF MINE! ON A MAN'S OWN LAND, HE MUST OFFER HIS SINCERE FRIENDSHIP AND WARM HOSPITALITY TO HIS INVITED GUESTS!
THE HUNTERS OF THIS MOUNTAIN HAVE FOLLOWED THIS TRADITION FOR GENERATIONS. I'M GOING TO DO THE SAME.
I DON'T MUCH LIKE GUYS WHO GIVE TROUBLE TO NICE KIDS LIKE THESE! AND YOU-- YOU MUST BE THE ONE WHO HAD ME POSSESSED!
SO, IT SEEMS THAT YOU WILL HAVE TO DIE AS WELL.
KABLAM
GRANDFATHER-- THE BATS! MORE THAN THE MAN, THEY'RE THE BAD THINGS! SHOOT THEM DOWN!
OW!
thup
PA!

DIE, BAOH!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
!
pud
pud
pud
SHUT UP!
BAROOO!
YOU-- YOU OLD BUZZARD!

BAROOO
BAROO
BAROOO

flup

NO! THEY GOT TO THE BATS!
IF I HAVE TO ENGAGE IN SERIOUS COMBAT WITH BAOH,
BAROOO
BAROOO
I WON'T LAST A MINUTE!

BAROO
BAROOOO

WAOOOMOOO

JUST FOUR DAYS SINCE HIS ESCAPE FROM THE TRAIN...
FASH!
..BAOH'S EXPERIENCE IN COMBAT HAS TAUGHT HIM TO DISTINGUISH FRIEND FROM FOE!

BAOH NOW KNOWS ENEMIES AND ALLIES...
THE "SMELL" OF FEAR. THE "SMELL" OF TRAGEDY..
"THE SCENT OF HIS EVIL MUST BE ENDED!"
DEEP INSIDE, BAOH COULD SENSE THE UNBEARABLE "SMELL"..
HE SENSED AN ADVERSARY AND KNEW, "THIS LIVING BEING IS THE GUILTY ONE!"
BRSH BROK
BAROOO
RRRRIPPP

BAROO
RRIPP!
WAOOOOOO
THIS IS THE BAOH SKIN SABER!
FWSH
SHOOSH!
N.N.
AYEE!

YOU-- YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT!
KTAKA
CHAK
CHOW
CHOW
CHOW
ZING
ZING
ZING
FUP
FUP
FUP
ung!
THE BAOH PIERCING NEEDLES!
THIK
THIK
THIK

SLIKT
SLASH!
AAA--
FWUP
FWOOSH
SKLOOSH

THUNK
BAOH STILL FELT DANGER!
SSSSSS
THE KILLER'S EVIL "SMELL" HAS NOT DISSIPATED!
"HE STILL MEANS US HARM," BAOH THOUGHT.
tuk
STRANGE! IT SEEMED TO MOVE JUST NOW...
chak
KAWOOK
chik!

SSSSSSSSZZZZ
OH, NO... OIL IS STARTING TO LEAK FROM MY NECK...
...OVER HALF MY BODY WAS REPLACED WITH CYBORG PARTS AFTER A SMALL EXPLOSION BLEW ME APART!
I'D SAY I WAS LUCKY...
I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO COME BACK LATER
ALONE, I'M JUST NO MATCH FOR YOU

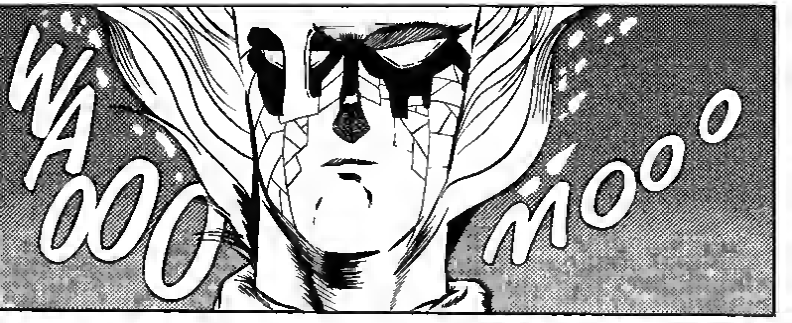
SHWUP
SHWUP
SHWUP
SHWUP
FWOOP
BUT THE GIRL WILL BE MINE-- TO KEEP!

SKREE
MA! GET HER INTO THE HOUSE!
CRACK
NOOO!
MY GOD! THE GIRL!
FWAP
IKURO!
HELP ME! IKURO!
YES, GIRL! BRING BAOH TO ME!

KABOOM!
I THINK YOU'D BETTER JUST STAY ON THE GROUND!
KLANG!
DAMN YOU! I'LL BLAST YOU ANYWAY!
KLIK
NO MORE SHELLS! THIS IS JUST NOT MY DAY!
THE TWO MUST HAVE A DEEP RAPPORT TO HAVE STUCK TOGETHER FOR THE PAST FOUR DAYS
WITH THE GIRL AS BAIT, IKUZO HASHIZAWA IS SURE TO BITE!
heh, heh, heh.. I'M SURE A SLY ONE!

"VIOLET! I SENSE HER CRY FOR HELP!
WELL? DON'T YOU HAVE ANOTHER TRICK TO PULL?
"I MUST GO AFTER THEM!"

HA, HA, HA!
COME AND GET US, IKURO HASHIZAWA! I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU!

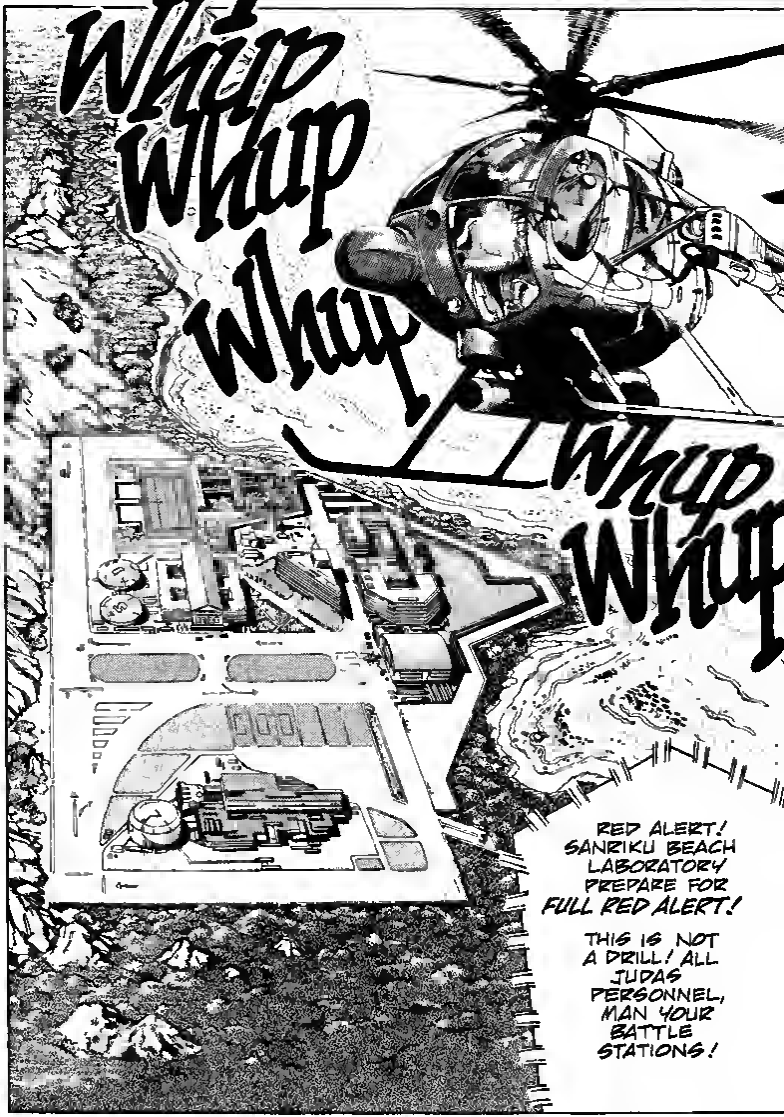

WAOOO
mOOO

KASHASH
KASHASH

SHASHASH

whup whup
SHASHASH

whup whup
SHASHASH

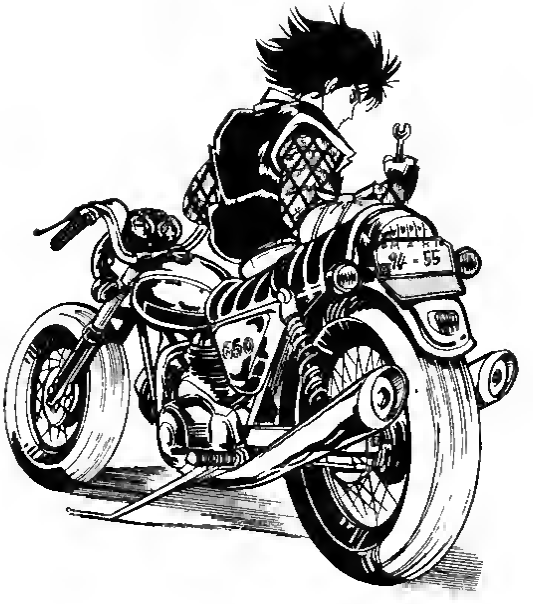

Whup Whup Whup
Whup Whup
RED ALERT! SANRIKU BEACH LABORATORY PREPARE FOR FULL RED ALERT!
THIS IS NOT A DRILL! ALL JUDAS PERSONNEL, MAN YOUR BATTLE STATIONS!

WHIP WHIP WHIP
WOW! THIS IS A BIG ONE!
THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY!
I'M SORRY, BUT YOU PEOPLE WILL HAVE TO BE MOVING ALONG!
WHO DO YOU JERKS THINK YOU ARE?
HEY! THOSE ARE OUR ONLY VACATION PICTURES!
SKRIIP
NO PICTURES ALLOWED HERE.
HERE!
SMASH!

Whup Whup Whup Whup
THE SANRIKU LABORATORY WAS ONE OF THE JUDAS GROUP'S MANY FRONT ORGANIZATIONS
ZZZMM
TO THE PUBLIC, IT WAS AN INSTITUTION FOR MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH...
...UNDER THE SAFELY BENEVOLENT DIRECTION OF A PRIVATE PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY.
Whup Whup whup
Whup Whup
Whup Whup
ITS TRUE FACE, HOWEVER, LIES DEEP UNDERGROUND.
pup pup pup
YOU..! BUT...

I AM DORUDO.
YES, SIR!
THE GIRL WHO SLEEPS INSIDE--TAKE HER TO THE PSI-WARRIOR ISOLATION CHAMBER ON THE SEVENTH LEVEL UNDERGROUND
YES, LIEUTENANT COLONEL!
SHAAAAA

SON, YOU'RE PLANNING TO GO AFTER HER, AREN'T YOU?
YES...
.....
WE WERE FOOLISH TO THINK WE COULD EVADE THEM FOREVER...
HOW CAN I EVEN LIVE WITH THIS BEAST LURKING INSIDE ME?
UNLESS I UNLEASH THE BEAST... USE ITS POWER TO DESTROY THE JUDAS MENACE...
...TO FREE VIOLET AND TAKE MY REVENGE!


94-55
650

Chapter 2
Advent

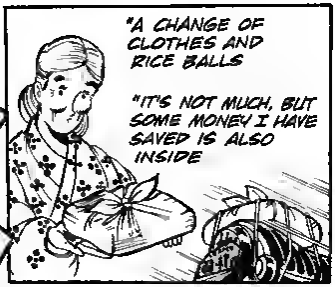
whee!
VRRRM!
VRRR
VRRR
VRRRRMM
MY THIRD SON REBUILT IT LONG AGO IT'S JUNK, BUT TAKE IT!
GOOD! IT'S WORKING!

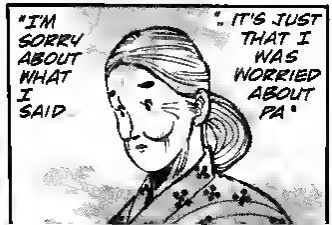
PA!
YOU SHOULDN'T BE MOVING AROUND!
SILLY GOOSE! THE HOLE IS NOTHING! ONLY PIERCED THE FAT OF MY STOMACH!
OW! OUCH..
GRAND-FATHER!
NO!
DON'T YOU TOUCH HIM!
JUST GET OUT OF HERE!
WE DON'T NEED ANY MORE TROUBLE! YOU'RE CURSED!
MA..
..YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO SAY THAT..
I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED, BUT THIS BOY MUST HAVE BEEN PURPOSEFULLY INFECTED WITH AN UNKNOWN DISEASE
WE SAW HOW THE GIRL WAS KIDNAPPED!
AND NOW, TO THIS SAME BOY, YOU SAY GET OUT OF HERE?!

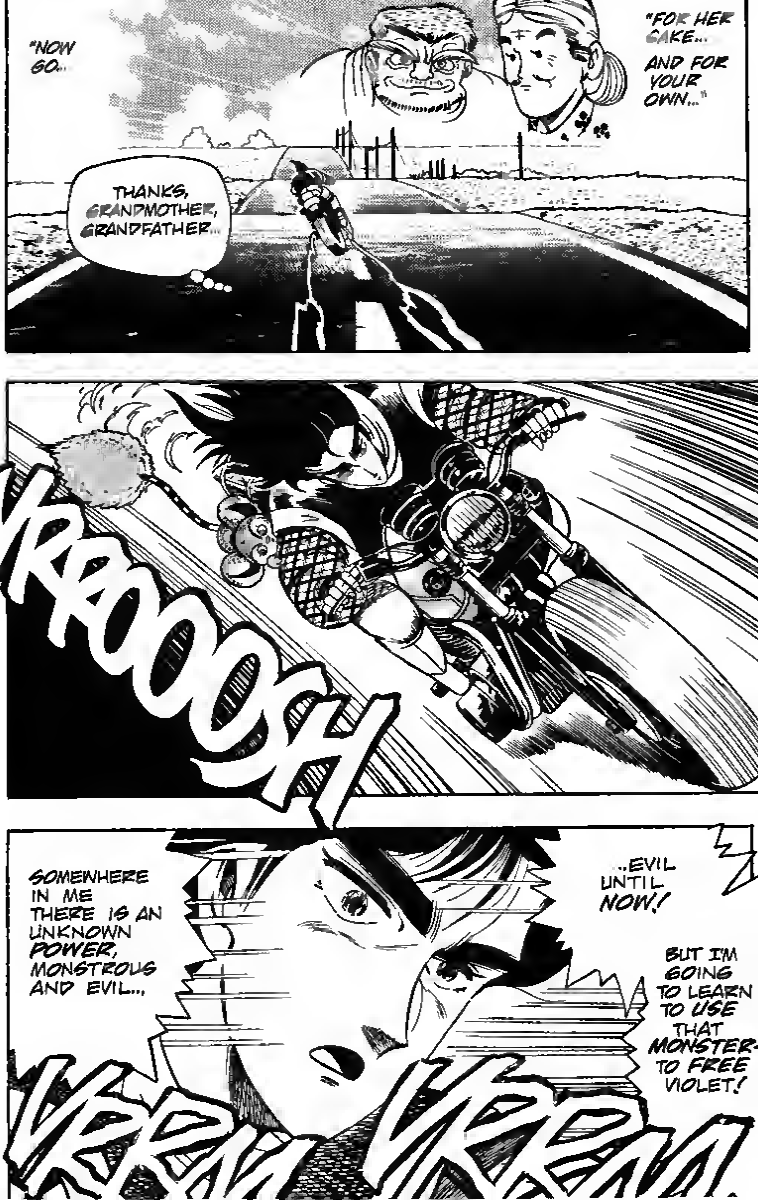
HE'S BEEN THROUGH TOO MUCH. YOU JUST CAN'T TELL HIM TO LEAVE.
B-BUT.
GRANDMOTHER, IT'S ALL RIGHT, REALLY I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU MUST FEEL..

"SON, I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, OR WHO SHE IS, OR WHY SHE WAS KIDNAPPED. I CAN DO NOTHING FOR YOU.
"BUT WHEN ALL YOUR PROBLEMS ARE SETTLED, PLEASE COME AGAIN TO OUR HOUSE"

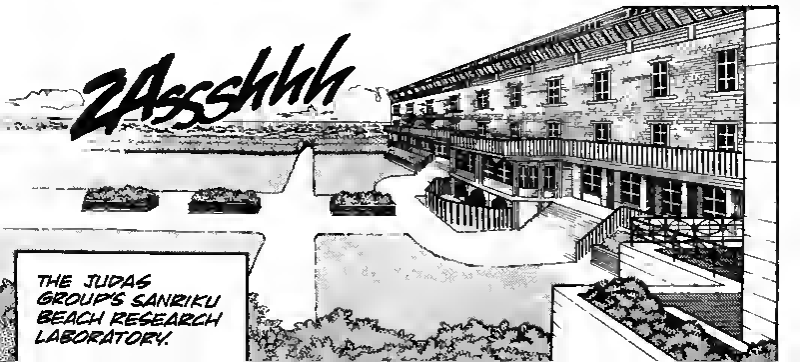
VRRRMMM


"A CHANGE OF CLOTHES AND RICE BALLS
"IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT SOME MONEY I HAVE SAVED IS ALSO INSIDE


"I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT I SAID
"..IT'S JUST THAT I WAS WORRIED ABOUT PA"


"NOW GO..
"FOR HER CAKE... AND FOR YOUR OWN..."
THANKS, GRANDMOTHER, GRANDFATHER...
VROOOOM
SOMEWHERE IN ME THERE IS AN UNKNOWN POWER, MONSTROUS AND EVIL...
..EVIL UNTIL NOW!
BUT I'M GOING TO LEARN TO USE THAT MONSTER-- TO FREE VIOLET!
VROOM VROOM

IF ONLY I HAD SOME WAY TO CONTROL IT!
VRROOOM


ZAsssh!!!
THE JUDAS GROUP'S SANRIKU BEACH RESEARCH LABORATORY.

TO GO BELOW LEVEL FOUR..
..WE WILL NEED AN AUTHORIZATION PASS FOR THE RESTRICTED LIFT.
UNDERGROUND LEVEL 7
SO, DORUDO.
..AFTER FOUR DAYS OF TRACKING THE BOY, YOUR SPECIAL OPERATIONS TASK FORCE HAS FINALLY SUCCEEDED.
...IN CAPTURING JUST ONE LITTLE GIRL !?

Keh..
BUT OUR TARGET WON'T DESERT THE GIRL AND RUN. AND HE CAN NO LONGER RELY ON HER PREMONITIONS. HE'S IN A VERY TIGHT PINCH.
THE BOY--PERHAPS BUT DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE BAOH. IKURO HASHIZAWA IS THE FIRST HUMAN HOST FOR THE PARASITE.
LIKE A BABY TRYING TO LEARN. BAOH IS UNPREDICTABLE WE MUST USE EXTREME CAUTION
BY THE WAY, DORUDO
..HE SAYS HE WANTS TO FIGHT WITH BAOH. HOW ABOUT IT?
HIS NAME.. IS WALKEN.

LOOOOOOOKIN' GOOD, BABY! I'M ONE LUCKY DUDE..
...TO HAVE A CHICK LIKE HER IN MY CLASS!
BETTER PUT ON THE ATTITUDE!
HIYA, AYA! THERE'S A BOWLING ALLEY ROUND THE CORNER. YOU GOT TIME TO SPARE?
I DON'T THINK SO.. NO.. LOOK AT THE TIME! I'D BETTER GET HOME.
HOME?! AT TWO O'CLOCK ?!
SO COLD-HEARTED! I'D GIVE MY LIFE FOR HER!
I KNOW! I'M JUST GOING TO GRAB HER HAND..
..ONCE I TOUCH HER, OUR RELATIONSHIP WILL HAVE TO CHANGE !

!
94-55
650
I GET IT! HE'S JEALOUS BECAUSE I'M WITH AYA! Heh. heh heh!
HEY, HE'S STARIN'.
WHO IS THAT GUY?
VIOLET SAID I COULD MELT THINGS WITH MY HAND.

"WAIT--HE'S COMING THIS WAY!"
EXCUSE ME, CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING ?
Y-YES...

IS THERE A BOOKSTORE NEARBY ?
I'M LOOKING FOR MAPS..
ARE THERE ANY-
..THERE IS A BOOKSTORE...
...ABOUT FIVE HUNDRED METERS DOWN THE ROAD
THANKS
WHAT A LAME LOOKING BIKE!
heh heh heh
HAS THE ENGINE DIED, OR IS HE JUST PUSHING IT TO SAVE GAS ?
HE COULD HEAR YOU!
THAK

YUJI... EXCUSE ME, BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
JUST HOLDING YOUR HAND IT'S COOL, ISN'T IT?
AYA! I I... I... I... I LOVE YOU!
LET ME GO!
UGH! GROSS!
SMAK!
THUK
YEOW CH!
MY FOOT-- STUCK IN THE TRACKS!
OWWW!!
IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT, AYA!
NOW CALM DOWN!
THT
THT
THT

CLANG CLANG CLANG
THE S-SIGNAL!
MY FOOT! IT WON'T COME OUT! WON'T COME OUT!
AYA! YOU'RE J-JOKING, RIGHT?
QUIT KIDDING AROUND!
CLANG CLANG
CLANG
HELP ME!
SHOOTH!
CLANG CLANG
CLANG
YUJI, PLEASE PUSH THE EMERGENCY SIGNAL!
AOOGA!

IT'S ON THIS TRACK!
ohmo-ohmo-ohmo!
CLANG CLANG
IT'S TOO LATE!
CLANG
CLANG
PLEASE! SIGNAL THE TRAIN TO STOP!
CLANG CLANG
I-I'M...
...GETTIN OUTTA HERE!
SOMEBODY--ANYBODY! HELP ME!
VRM
SKREE

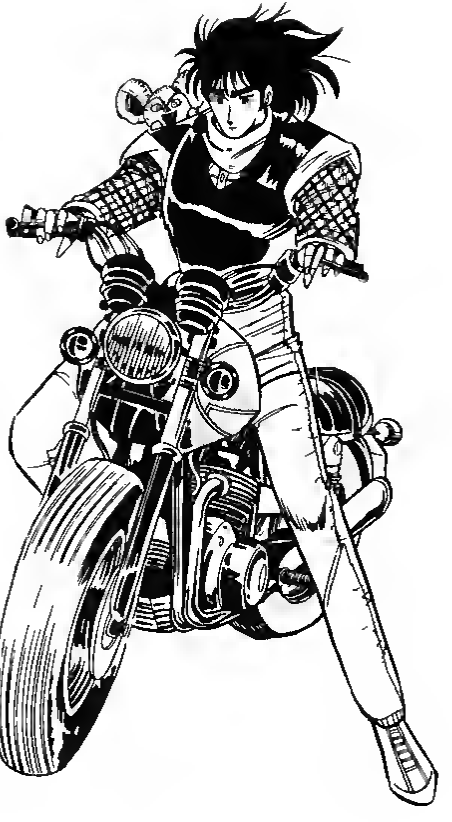
PUM
PUM
PUM
PUM

ADRENALINE BEGINS TO RUSH THROUGH IKURO'S VEINS...
...BUT SINCE IKURO HIMSELF IS NOT UNDER ATTACK, HE CANNOT TRANSFORM INTO BAOH!

MAYBE I CAN DO IT!
NO--I MUST DO IT!
ALL RIGHT! YOU, THE POWER WITHIN ME! THERE'S DANGER-- IT'S TIME TO COME OUT!
YOU, THE POWER OF A MONSTER! AREN'T YOU GOING TO HELP ?!
AOOGA!
ARE YOU THERE JUST TO KILL PEOPLE? COME OUT!
RRRRRRR
THUNK!
COME OUT!
MONSTER!

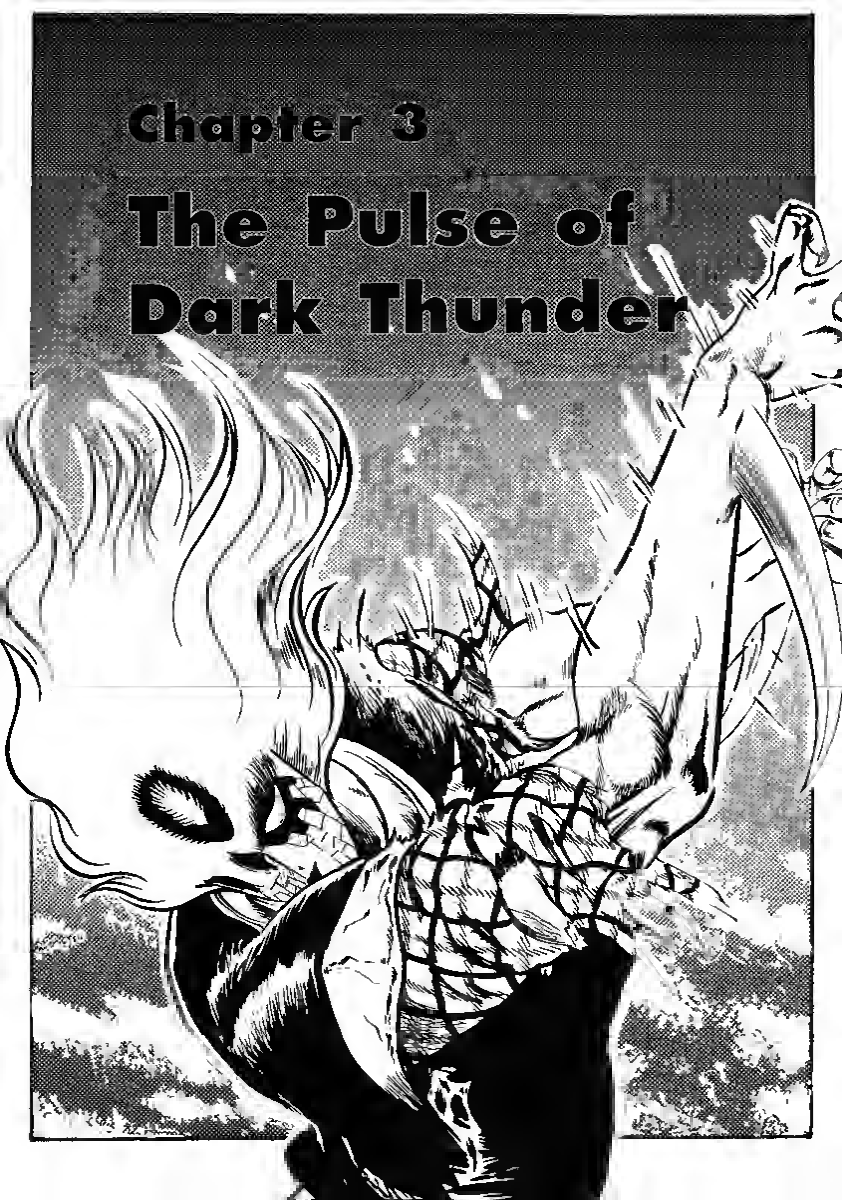
AIEEEEEE!
RRRRRRR
WHOOSH
KLAKAKLAKAKLAK
KLAKA KLAKA KLAK
KLAKA KLAK

THE BAOH ACID PALM!
I--I DID IT! .....
SOMEHOW I MADE THE POWER DO WHAT I WANTED IT TO!
SO THIS... IS BEING A MONSTER!



Chapter 3

The Pulse of Dark Thunder

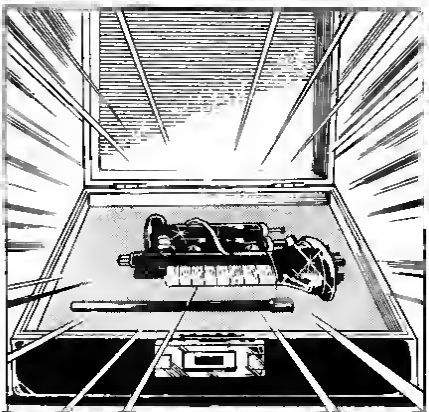


KABAM!!
"SO, DORUDO, YOU SQUANDERED OUR SPECIALLY CREATED BATS!"
DAMN! EVERYBODY TREATING ME LIKE AN INCOMPETENT!
"ONE LITTLE GIRL, DORUDO? Heh, heh.."
"HE SENT YOU SCURRYING HOME WITH YOUR TAIL BETWEEN YOUR LEGS, EH?"
BING
B B
4 3 2 1 2 3
HEY-- WHAT'S YOUR BEEF, COLONEL DORUDO !?
WHUP
OUT OF MY WAY, PEON !

RRRMRRRR

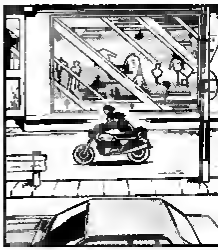
HOW DARE THEY IMPUGN MY ABILITIES! I, WHO KILLED 2500 IN BATTLE!
THAT DAMNED HAZYEYE! SO ALL I HAVE TO DO IS KILL THAT BAOH, RIGHT?
I COULD HAVE KILLED HIM--AND I WILL KILL HIM!

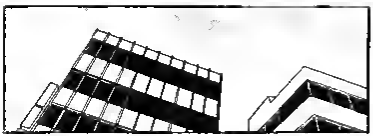
THIS HUMILIATION! IKURO HASHIZAWA, YOU WILL PAY FOR THIS!

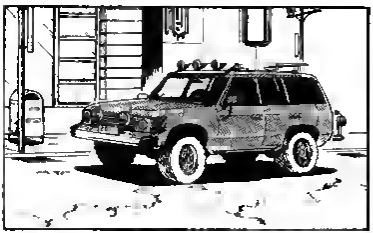


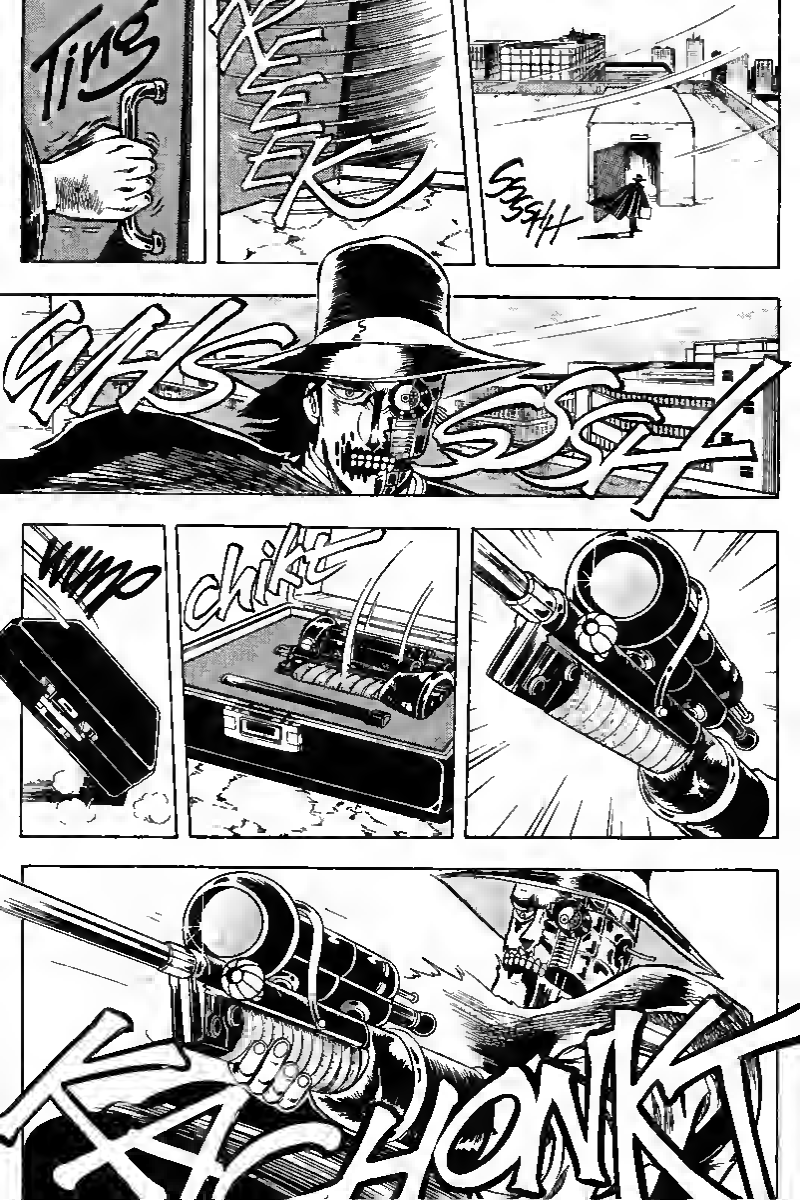
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? CAN YOU WALK?
Y-YES... UMM-- KIND OF...
OH... OUCH!
YI
SIGH!
I.. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. FOR SAVING ME.. I. UH..
YOU-- YOU WERE LOOKING FOR A MAP LET ME TAKE YOU TO THE BOOKSTORE IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO

THANK YOU...








TING
KEEK
SSSSHH
WHSSSH
WUMP
chik
KACHONK

Ahhhh
REEEE
SUCK
whirr
913.28m
Breep
GOOD! DISTANCE 913.28 METERS!
whirrr
WIND VELOCITY WESTERLY AT THREE METERS PER HOUR.
18.9°c
TEMPERATURE 18.9 DEGREES CELSIUS.
YOU'RE IN THE GRAVEST DANGER YOU'VE EVER FACED, HASHIZAWA, AND YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW IT--NOW THAT THE GIRL IS NO LONGER THERE TO TELL YOU YOUR FUTURE!

THIS WILL BE YOUR DOWNFALL!
I'LL BLOW YOU TO SMITHEREENS!
A BULLET WITH AN EXPLOSIVE PLANTED IN THE TIP!
KLEK
TO THIS LITTLE BABY, YOUR HEAD IS NOTHING BUT A BALLOON FILLED WITH BLOOD!
KILL
ONLY A HEAD SHOT WILL KILL THE PARASITE! ANYTHING LESS IS FUTILE
BUT I'M AN ACE MARKSMAN!
THIS IS WHAT I DO BEST!
Breeep

TASTE DEATH, BAOH!
KABLAM
ZEEEEE
ZEEEEE
SMASH!
ZEEEE
¥75,000

SHABOOM!
AIYEEK!
KRANG
KRESH!!

DRESSED to KILL
AEEE!

HE--
HE.
DODGED
?!
IT CAN'T BE! THAT'S INSANE!
I MUST'VE SEEN IT WRONG.

BUT IKURO'S VISION DID NOT FAIL HIM HE CLEARLY SAW THE TRAIL OF THE BULLET. TRACKED ITS MOVEMENT..
..AND DODGED FROM ITS PATH!
THE POWER OF BAOH HAS ONCE AGAIN APPEARED-- BEFORE THE TRANSFORMATION
AN ASSASSIN FROM JUDAS!

AYA! GET DOWN!
YEEK!
YEAH-- I SAW IT WRONG!
KABLAM
THAT'S IT!
IT'S COMING!
IT WAS A BATTLE FOUGHT IN A FRACTION OF A SECOND..
THIS IS BAD..
THIS TIME I CAN'T JUST STEP OUT OF THE WAY!
SHE'S RIGHT IN ITS PATH...
...IF I DODGE THE BULLET, SHE'S KABLOOEY!

SHOULD I PUSH HER ASIDE?
NO WAY-- HER BODY CAN'T TAKE THE ACCELERATION OR THE IMPACT..
WAIT!
DO I HAVE TIME? IT COULD BACKFIRE-- CAUSE A LARGE EXPLOSION!
BUT IT'S GOING TO HIT ME RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES!
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY!
RRR

WHANG!
MAKI
94-65
Ungh!

BLAST
KAWAW
GOOD GOD!
HE'S BROUGHT OUT THE POWER OF BAOH!
BUT HE HASN'T EVEN REACHED BAOH TRANSFORMATION STAGE ONE!

SOMEHOW, HE'S EVOLVING. THE HUMAN HOST IS MERGING WITH THE PARASITE!
IN A FEW DAYS, HE'LL BE INVINCIBLE! HE -- HE COULD DESTROY THE WORLD!
.....
JUDAS-- THIS IS WAR! I'M COMING BACK TO FIGHT YOU!
YOU GAVE ME THIS POWER! NOW PREPARE TO FACE IT!

shoo
shoo
shoo
VIOLET! STOP BEING SUCH A STUBBORN LITTLE GIRL!
YOU KNOW WE CAN BRAINWASH YOU!
COOPERATE! DEMONSTRATE YOUR POWER FOR US!
TPWAK
WHAT OTHER KIND OF POWER DO YOU WANT TO SEE?
KRASH!
DAMN BRAT!
THAT'S THE THIRD PIECE OF EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT SHE'S BROKEN TODAY!

HER BRAIN WAVE PATTERN HAS SUDDENLY GONE HAYWIRE!
IT IS I-- HAZYEYE! WHAT IS GOING ON WITH THE GIRL?
THE PULSE IS TREMENDOUS!
WHAT'S CAUSING IT? WHAT HAPPENED?!
GUIYA GUIYA
THIS COFFEE IS COLD!
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE SHE SAW HIM.
..ANOTHER ONE WITH ESP
THROUGH HIM SHE COULD SENSE THE APPROACHING CRISIS
AND HER RAPPORT WITH HASHIZAWA MADE HER FEEL THE DANGER

DANGER EVEN TO BAOH!
WALKEN! THE STRONGEST PSI-WARRIOR ON EARTH!
SKASHAKA
BLIP BLUP

Chapter 4
The Sleeping Giant

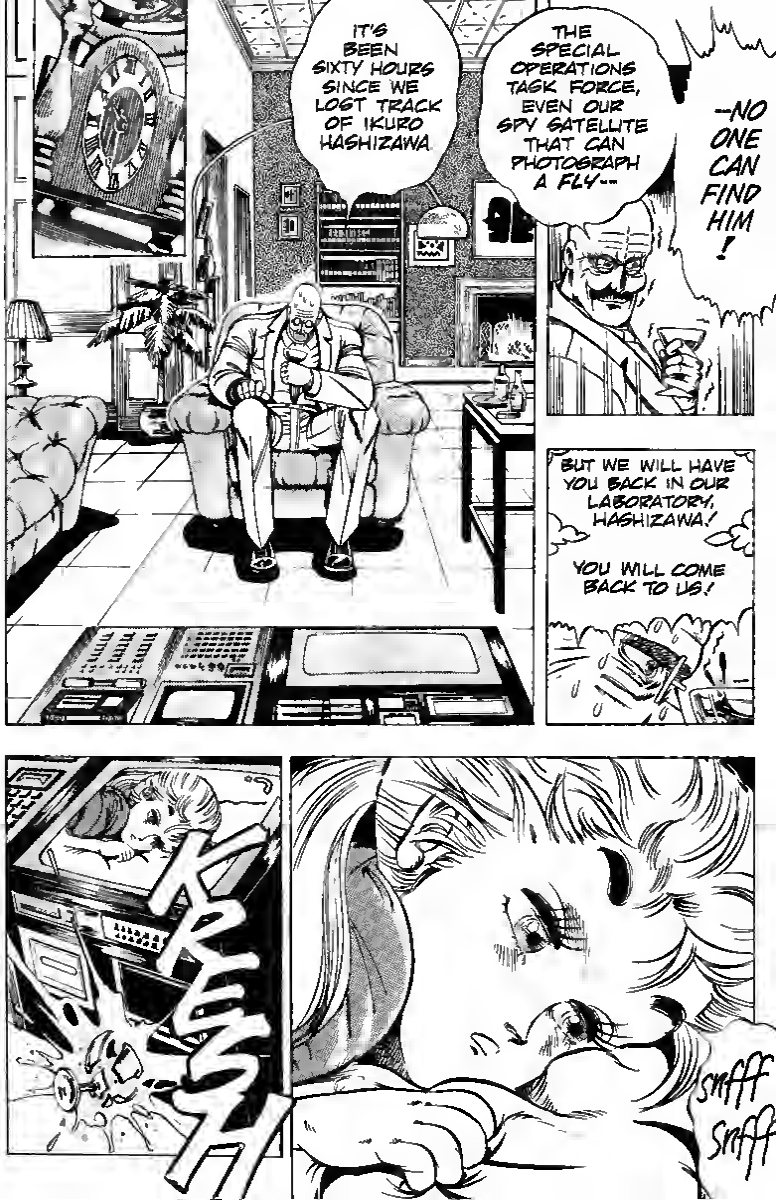
OH!
KILL
WHAT HAPPENED?! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
YOU! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
G... GONE..
HE'S GONE!
WE'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE, NOTSUO! IT'S TIME TO LIE LOW FOR A WHILE!

LET GO OF ME!
THIS IS WAY OUT OF LINE!
GET YOUR STINKING HANDS OFF OF ME!
SKRK
AHAAGH!
WHAM
H-H-HAZYEE!

ORDERS FROM THE TOP-- COLONEL DORUDO, YOU ARE TO BE EXECUTED.
D-DON'T! PLEASE!
WALKEN, PLEASE STOP! NOT THAT!
SKUNCH!
YEERK!
SLASH
TOO LATE..
...WE'VE LOST SIGHT OF THE BOY FOR SIXTY HOURS!
THANKS TO YOUR UNAUTHORIZED ACTIONS...
GGAKK!

YOU'VE MET WALKEN YOU KNOW HE CAN TAKE MATTER AND VIBRATE ITS EVERY ATOM AT INCREDIBLE SPEEDS.
uh uh uh uh uh
SKASHAKASHA
HO HO HO HO!
SKEECH
EVERY ATOM--- WHETHER IT'S PART OF A MACHINE.
BLAM
GAK
...OR LIVING TISSUE, LIKE YOUR BRAIN.

SKRAWL!
AND BAOH IS NEXT!
ASHES TO ASHES DUST TO DUST
Shaaaaa
Shaaaaa


IT'S BEEN SIXTY HOURS SINCE WE LOST TRACK OF IKURO HASHIZAWA.
THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS TASK FORCE, EVEN OUR SPY SATELLITE THAT CAN PHOTOGRAPH A FLY--
--NO ONE CAN FIND HIM!
BUT WE WILL HAVE YOU BACK IN OUR LABORATORY, HASHIZAWA!
YOU WILL COME BACK TO US!
KRASH
sniff sniff

BWWWWWWWW
SKREEE
SHREEEKK
IKURO...
NOT EVEN A DROP OF WATER IN THE LAST TWO DAYS...
...HER CONDITION HAS REACHED THE CRITICAL POINT!
ARE YOU STILL GOING TO CONTINUE THIS..
...THIS TORTURE OF SOUND !?

BACH WILL SENSE THIS GIRL'S PAIN! HE WILL SMELL IT LIKE A SHARK SMELLING BLOOD FROM SEVERAL KILOMETERS AWAY!
WE WILL CONTINUE! UNTIL IT IS LURED BY THE SCENT OF A LIFE IN DANGER AND COMES, WE WILL CONTINUE!
B-BUT, THE GIRL -- SHE HASN'T EVEN SCREAMED ONCE.
BEEEEP
PROFESSOR HAZYEYE!
IT'S H-HIM!
WHSSSSHH
...HE-- HE'S HERE!
WE FOUND HIM!
WHAT?! WHERE?!
W-WELL...

KRNCH
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT HE'S ON THE GROUNDS OF THE INSTITUTE!
KRNCH!
WE THINK HE CAME THROUGH THE CAVERNS THAT RUN UNDER THIS WHOLE AREA.
THERE ARE SEVERAL CAVE ENTRANCES ALONG THE SEA COAST
WHHHSSSS
THE CAVERNS.. DAMN!
heh, eh... ha ha ha!
WHERE'S WALKEN?!
CALL WALKEN!

KRNCH
SHHH
HSHHH
I FEEL IT! WITH MY WHOLE BODY-- VIOLET IS HURT!
DEATH HAS ALMOST COME...
..AND WHOSE FAULT IS IT ?!
PUM PUM
PUM PUM

MY FAULT! MY FAULT THAT VIOLET IS DYING!
PIKPOK
YAAH!
I MUST SAVE VIOLET! I MUST!
MY NAME'S CAIN!
AND I'M BLOODY!

DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT GETTING IN MY WAY!
SPLITCH
JUST TRY TO STOP US!
BAOH OR NO BAOH!
SEEEESH
ZZAPP
SPOP!
SZAP
SZAP
H-HE... IN M-MID AIR...
HE STOPPED THE BOMB!

STZTATZT
STZTASTZZT
STZTASTZSTZT
YEAAHHH!
BLUBLBLUBL
KISH
BLUBLBLUBL

ELECTRICITY !
MY BODY IS EMITTING ELECTRICITY !
SZAP
SPLURTCH
SKLORSH
SPLETCH
ZZZAPP

THE BAOH PULSE OF DARK THUNDER!

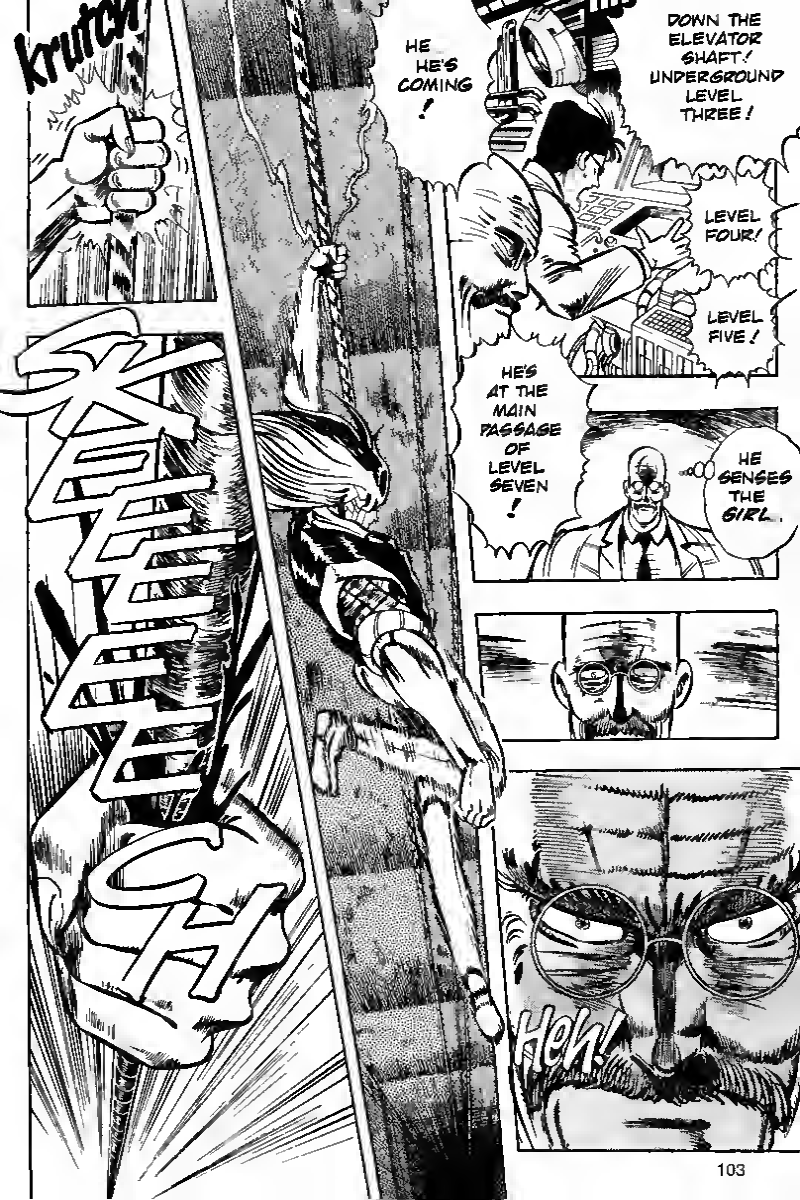
BLAM sho
JUDAS! EVERYWHERE I TURN! BUT I'M GOING TO STOP THE SMELL THAT HAUNTS ME--
STOP IT FOREVER!

oosh

THE NEXT STAGE IN THE BAOH TRANSFORMATION... ANOTHER ARMED PHENOMENON...

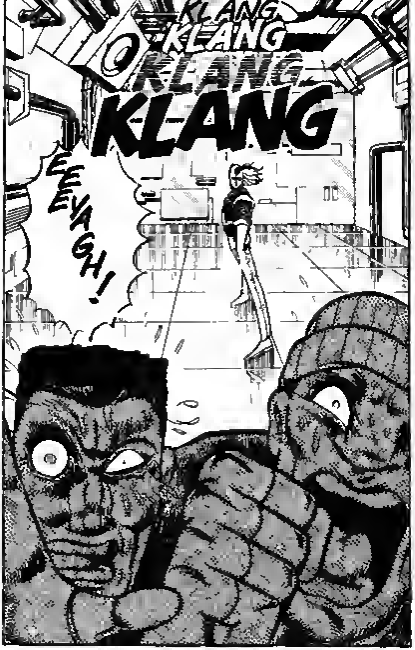
THE MUSCLES AND NERVES OF EVEN AN ORDINARY HUMAN BEING MAKE A VERY WEAK FORM OF ELECTRICITY.
BUT WHAT IF, LIKE BATTERIES IN SERIES...
...THE MUSCLE CELLS WERE LINKED ONE BY ONE.
MUCH THE WAY AN ELECTRIC EEL GENERATES CURRENT...
KA
KRAK
...COULD THEN WIELD THE POWER OF THOUSANDS, EVEN MILLIONS, OF CELLS!
A SINGLE CELL...
...RAOH'S NERVES AND MUSCLES CREATE ELECTRICITY!

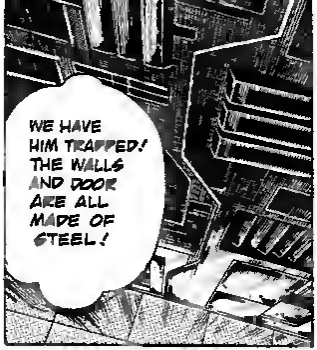
BUT SINCE BAOH'S MUSCLES HAVE TREMENDOUS POWER--
WAOOOOOO
--THE CURRENT CREATED IS OF 60,000 VOLTS!
SZZHAZT
WHOOSH
NOW BAOH POSSESSES TWO NEW WEAPONS-- A FIELD OF GREAT FORCE, AND THE CONSCIOUS MIND OF IKURO HASHIZAWA!

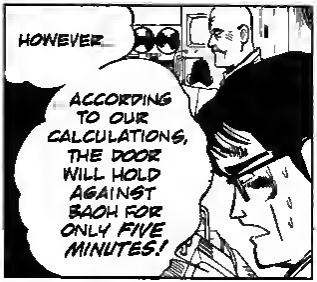

krutch
HE HE'S COMING !
DOWN THE ELEVATOR SHAFT! UNDERGROUND LEVEL THREE!
LEVEL FOUR!
LEVEL FIVE!
HE'S AT THE MAIN PASSAGE OF LEVEL SEVEN !
HE SENSES THE GIRL..
SKETCH
Heh!

!?
ZMZMZM
ZMZMZM
ZMZMZ
BAROOOO!

FASH-OOSH
SKRAK
SKREE
KLANG
IT--IT'S CLOSING!
GNNNN!


KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
EEEVAGH!


WE HAVE HIM TRAPPED! THE WALLS AND DOOR ARE ALL MADE OF STEEL!


HOWEVER...
ACCORDING TO OUR CALCULATIONS, THE DOOR WILL HOLD AGAINST BAOH FOR ONLY FIVE MINUTES!

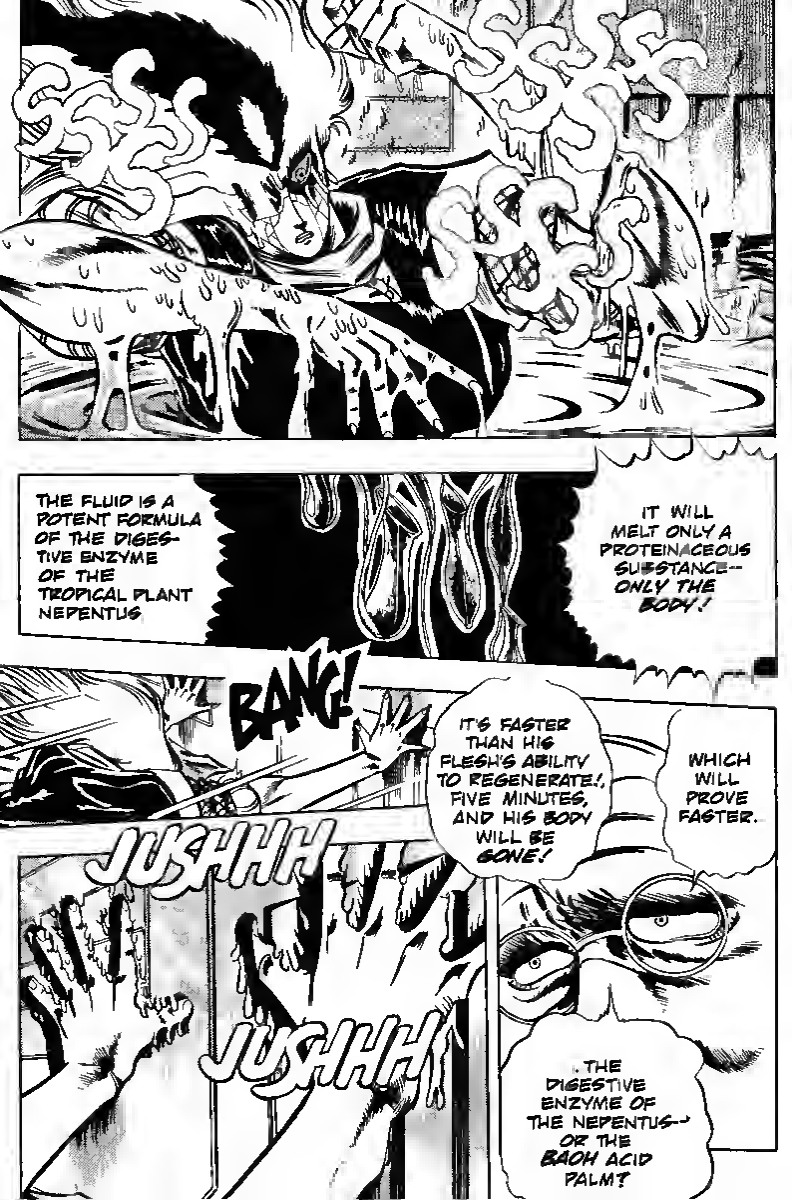
THEN RELEASE THE NEPENTUS FLUID.

DID YOU NOT HEAR ME?!
I SAID, RELEASE THE NEPENTUS FLUID. NOW RELEASE IT!

WHA!?
BUT THERE ARE TWO SOLDIERS STILL IN THERE!

Y-YES, SIR!

PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
SPLOOSH
YUGH!
I-IT CAN'T BE..!
WH...
BLIK
GLURK
SPLOO


SSSS

SPLOO
STEECH
ERICH!
SAEEEEE
A SAP SPIDER!
SOME LIVING ORGANISMS CAN BE FOUND INSIDE INSECTIVOROUS PLANTS.
A SPECIES OF SPIDER IS ONE OF THEM.
BECAUSE THEY HAVE A DIFFERENT ENZYME WITHIN THEM THAT NEUTRALIZES THE PLANT'S DIGESTIVE ENZYMES, THEY LIVE UNHARMED!

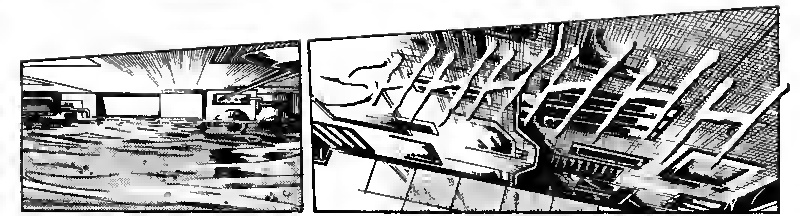
I HAVE ARTIFICIALLY EVOLVED A SAP SPIDER FOR BAOH TO BATTLE!
SLITH SLITH
Splish Splish
WHAT IS IT?
IS THE PLAN TO PIERCE MY ARMOR AND SUCK OUT MY BODILY FLUIDS?
BAROOO!
SPLOSH
EVEN AS BAOH FIGHTS THE SPIDER, ITS HOST BODY IS BEING CONTINUOUSLY DIGESTED!

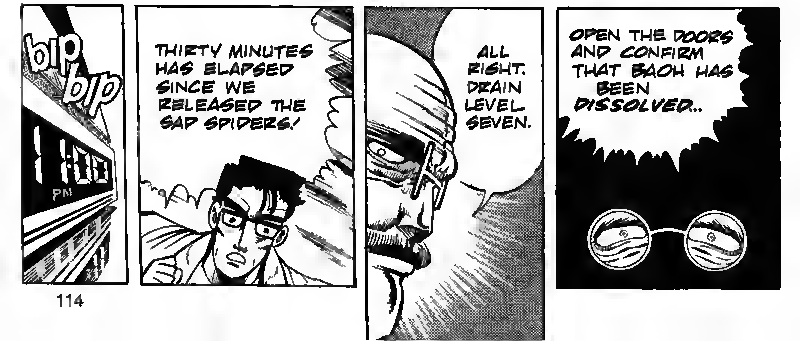
RRRR
ploosh

ZAA
KAPLOOSH
THE BAOH SKIN SABER!

SKITCH!
GAEEEEEE
CHUK

SHASH
I PURPOSELY MISSED THE VITAL POINT!
THIS SPIDER'S LIFE WILL SERVE MY NEEDS.
BAroom


SHHHHH


bip bip
PM
THIRTY MINUTES HAS ELAPSED SINCE WE RELEASED THE SAD SPIDERS!
ALL RIGHT. DRAIN LEVEL SEVEN.
OPEN THE DOORS AND CONFIRM THAT BAOH HAS BEEN DISSOLVED..

FASHOOSH
skich skich
skich
WE--WE DID IT! BAOH HAS DISSOLVED WITHOUT A TRACE!
WHAT?
WITHOUT KILLING EVEN ONE OF THEM.?
skich
skich
MY GOD--
NO!
CLOSE THE DOORS!
SKRA

SKRIP!
HOW COULD HE...?
HE'S BEEN HIDING IN THE BODY OF THE SPIDER!
THE STILL-LIVING SAP SPIDER CONTINUED TO SECRETE IT'S PROTECTIVE ENZYME, ALLOWING, BAOH TO ESCAPE WITHOUT HARM...

VIOLET'S SCENT! SHE'S SOMEWHERE NEAR!
SHE'S ON THIS FLOOR!
tmp
WELCOME, VISITOR!

uff
haff
uff
KRAK
IKURO! DON'T COME!
STAY AWAY
fump
SHREEEEK

I FOUND HER!
KAITHOOM
BOY... I HOLD NO ANIMOSITY TOWARD YOU.
BUT I AM A WARRIOR.
TO FIGHT IS EVERYTHING... TO FIGHT IS TO LIVE...
I MUST PASS THROUGH HERE!
GYAAA

RRRIPP
SPLOK
SKRRR

SKRRRIPPP

KAZAH!
HUH?
WHAT IS HE DOING?!
?

WALKEN HAS NEVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE...
"WALKEN IS THE LAST SURVIVING MEMBER OF A NOW-PERISHED AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBE...
"SO WALKEN HAS ACKNOWLEDGED EACH AS A TRUE WARRIOR!"
"...AND THAT IS HIS WAR PAINT!
"THAT SYMBOL OF BLOOD IS TO SHOW RESPECT TOWARD ONE'S OPPONENT--RESPECT THROUGH DEATH!
NOW IS YOUR TIME OF DYING!"
SKASHASKASH

SKSHSKSH
THE FORCE OF MOLECULAR WIND!
BOOM!
BA-BOO!

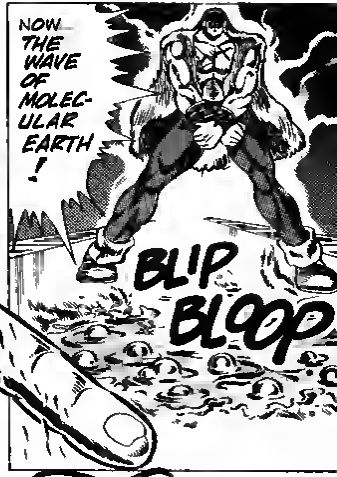
RM
RMKM
WHA ?!
E-EARTHQUAKE!
CHK
CHK
CHK
BLAM!
KNNH
!

SKASH
KRNCH
TUNCH
BLOO BLOOH
SHAAAA!

!!
THE STEEL WALL!
HE BOILED THE CONCRETE AS IF IT WERE STEW!
AND THE VIBRATION-- WE CAN FEEL IT HERE, FIFTY METERS AWAY!
SSSaswastch
THE BAOH PIERCING NEEDLES!
CHISHT
SST SST
SHISH SHASK

USELESS, BAOH...
...ANYTHING NEAR ME
LIVING THINGS...
EVERY SUBSTANCE.
ALL RETURN TO DUST!

BLOOP


NOW... THE WAVE OF MOLEC-ULAR EARTH!
BLIP
BLOOP

BRROOOP!
TOOF!

SST
SST
SO YOU LIKE TO JUMP?
CHANG
UNGH!
BRRROOP!

BA-BOOO!
WHSH
MUST USE... PULSE...
KING
YES! WALKEN DID IT!
HE TRAPPED BAOH'S ARM INSIDE THE STEEL WALL!
NOW BAOH WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTACK WALKEN WITH ELECTRICAL SHOCKS!

INSTEAD OF DISCHARGING HIS ELECTRICITY THROUGH THE AIR...
...IT WILL ALL RUN INTO THE STEEL WALL!
BOY...
...SOME THINGS ARE MORE FRIGHTENING THAN DEATH...
I'M TALKING ABOUT YOUR BODY, MY POWERS...
YOU AND I ARE THE SAME. WE ARE MONSTERS!
RM RM RM RM RM
WITH THIS HAND, I WILL END YOUR NIGHTMARE...
...GRANT YOU THE PEACE OF OBLIVION!
NO!

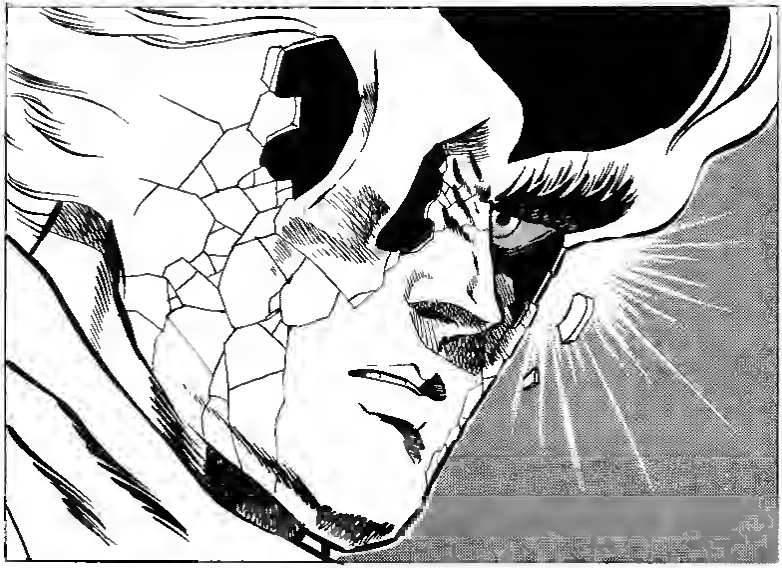
WAOOOMBO
FWISH
SPLUK
N-NOOO...
WHY?

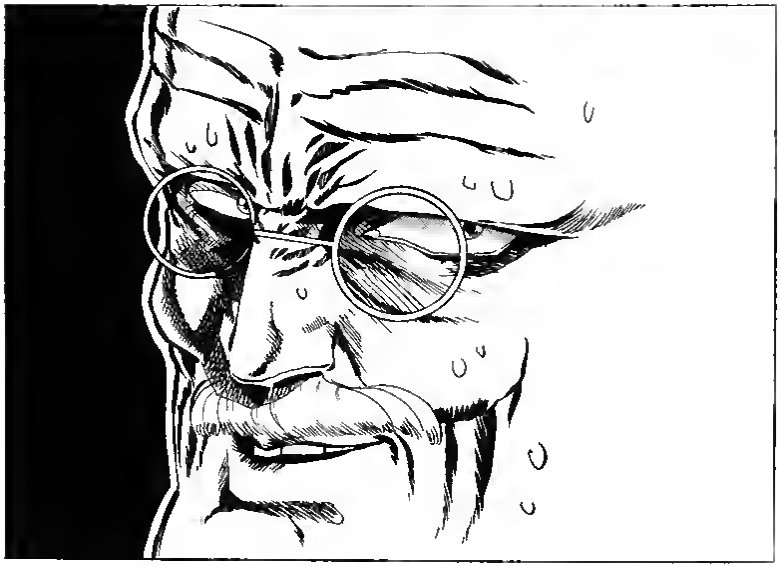
SKISH
SLASH
WHY? HIS OWN ARM! HIS OWN ARM!
THE PULSE OF DARK THUNDER!
ZAPPP

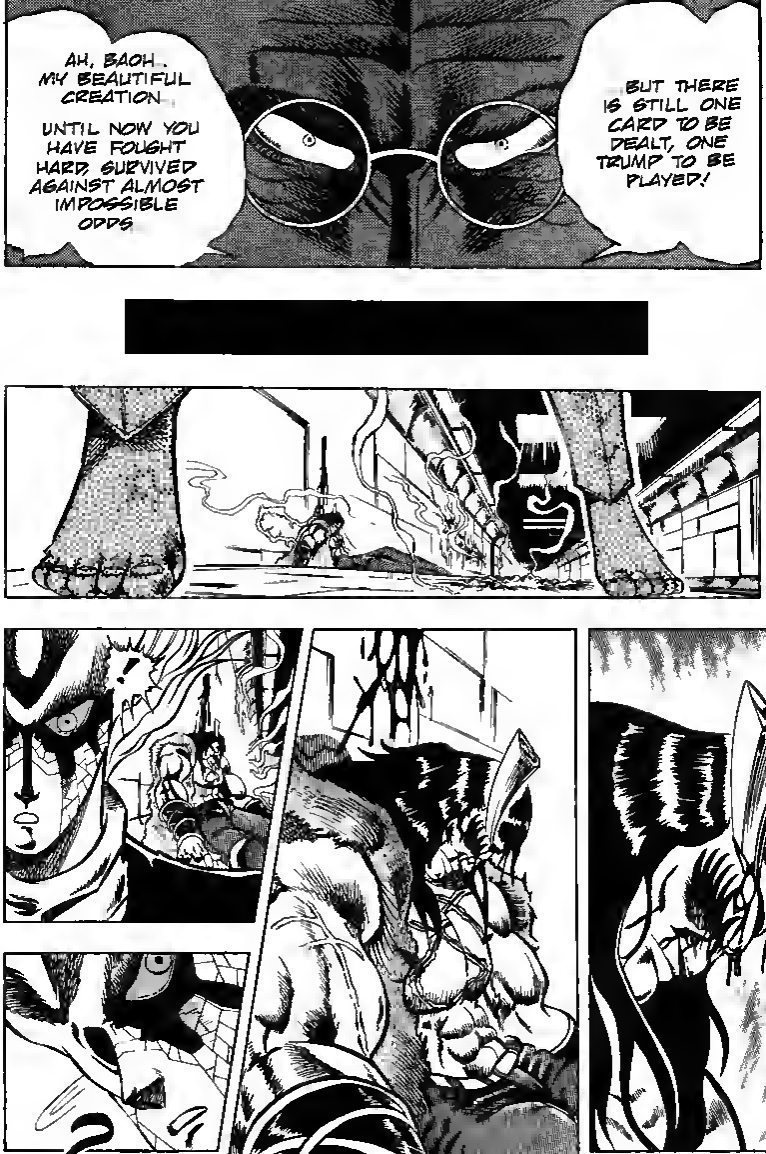
STZTAST
nugh!
STZTAST
STZTAST
TH-THIS... IS... N-NOTHING...!

SABER...
...OFF!
SKRIK
KRAK
SKASH
SKSH
SKSH
SKSH
NO!
SKLEESH!

AAA...
GGHH!
WHUD
I CANNOT DIE!
I MUST SURVIVE!
FWUMP






AH, BAOH. MY BEAUTIFUL CREATION.
UNTIL NOW YOU HAVE FOUGHT HARD, SURVIVED AGAINST ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE ODDS
BUT THERE IS STILL ONE CARD TO BE DEALT, ONE TRUMP TO BE PLAYED!
!
?

"VIOLET IS IN DANGER!" THINKS IKURO HASHIZAWA, CUTTING THROUGH THE PARASITE BAOH'S HOLD ON HIS CONSCIOUSNESS. "I'VE GOT TO HURRY!"

LEVEL SEVEN! BAOH HAS ARRIVED AT THE GIRL'S ROOM!
KRAWC
THE DOOR-- COMPLETELY SMASHED! DOUBLE-CHECK THE TRAP!
RUN!

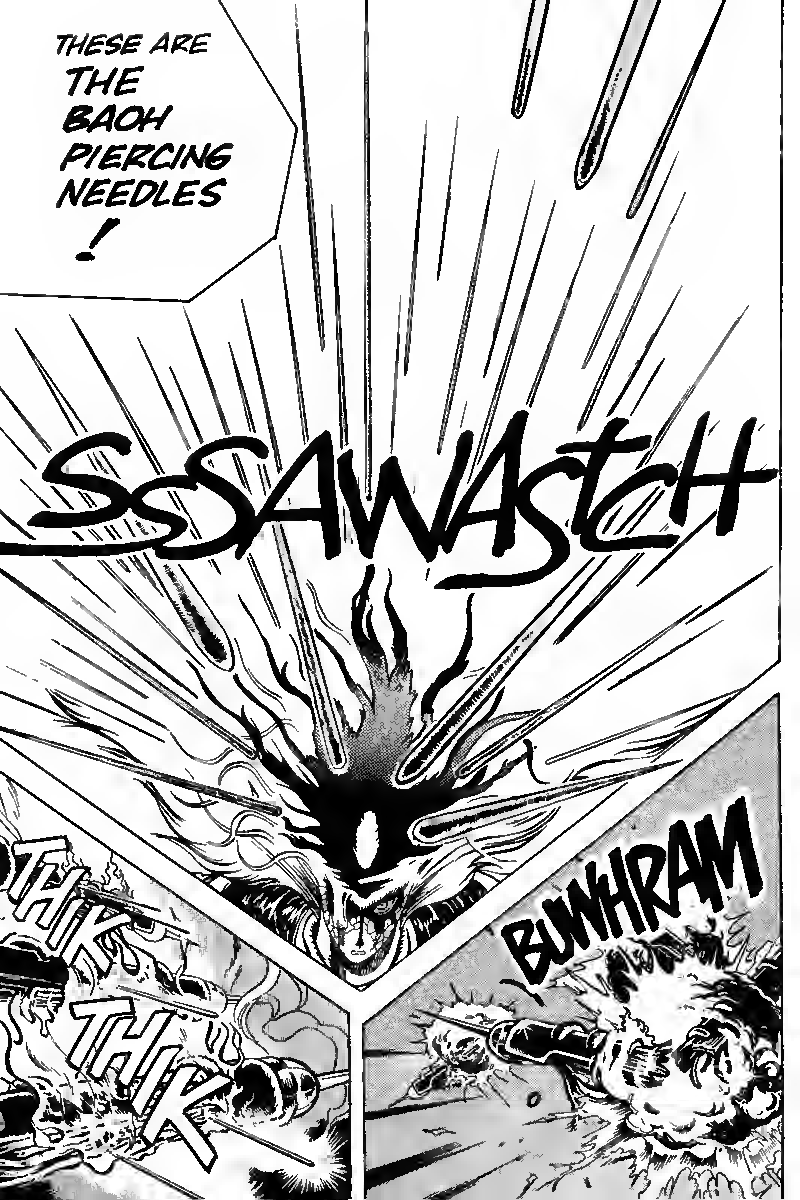
VIOLET!
IKURO!
ENERGY TO LASER CANNONS IS AT MAXIMUM!

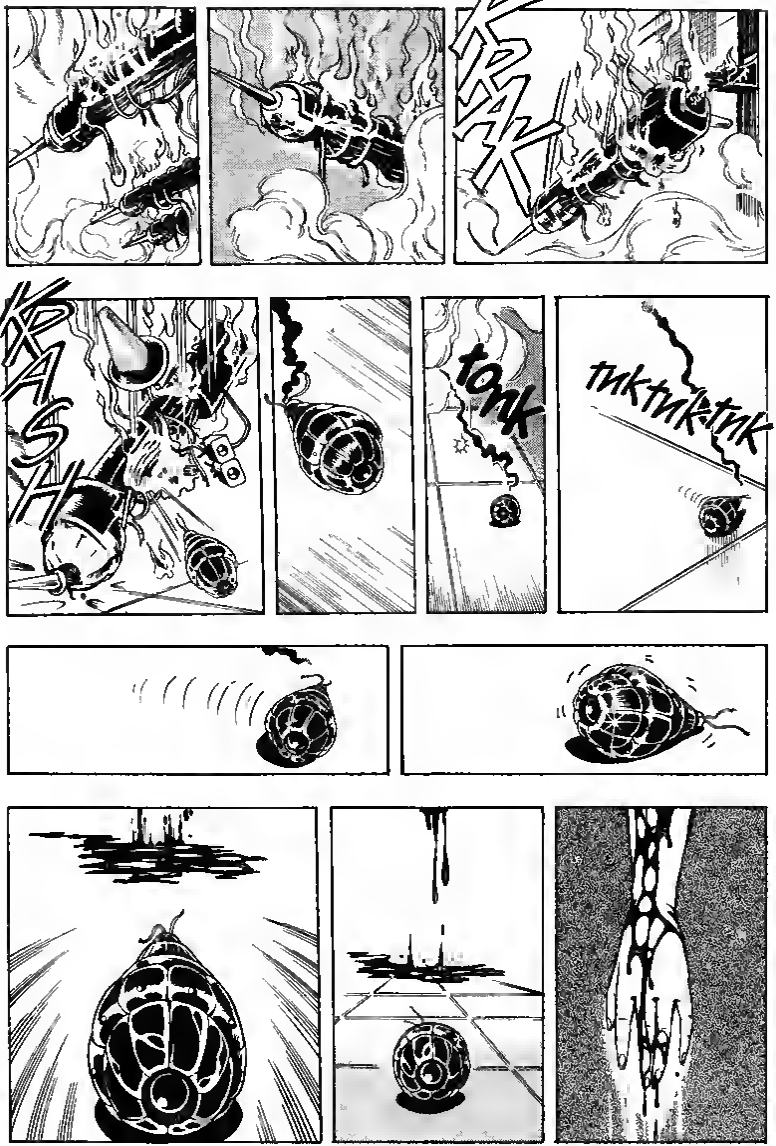
KURO!

STILL IT HESITATES! WE HAVE NO CHOICE
...KILL THE GIRL!
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO LURE BAOH INTO OUR TRAP!

READY... FIRE !
OH!
ZEET
ZEET
ZEE

ZOOTA
ZOOTA
ZOOTA
ZEET ZEET ZEET
ZEET ZEET
BAroooo
BAroooo
BAROOOO

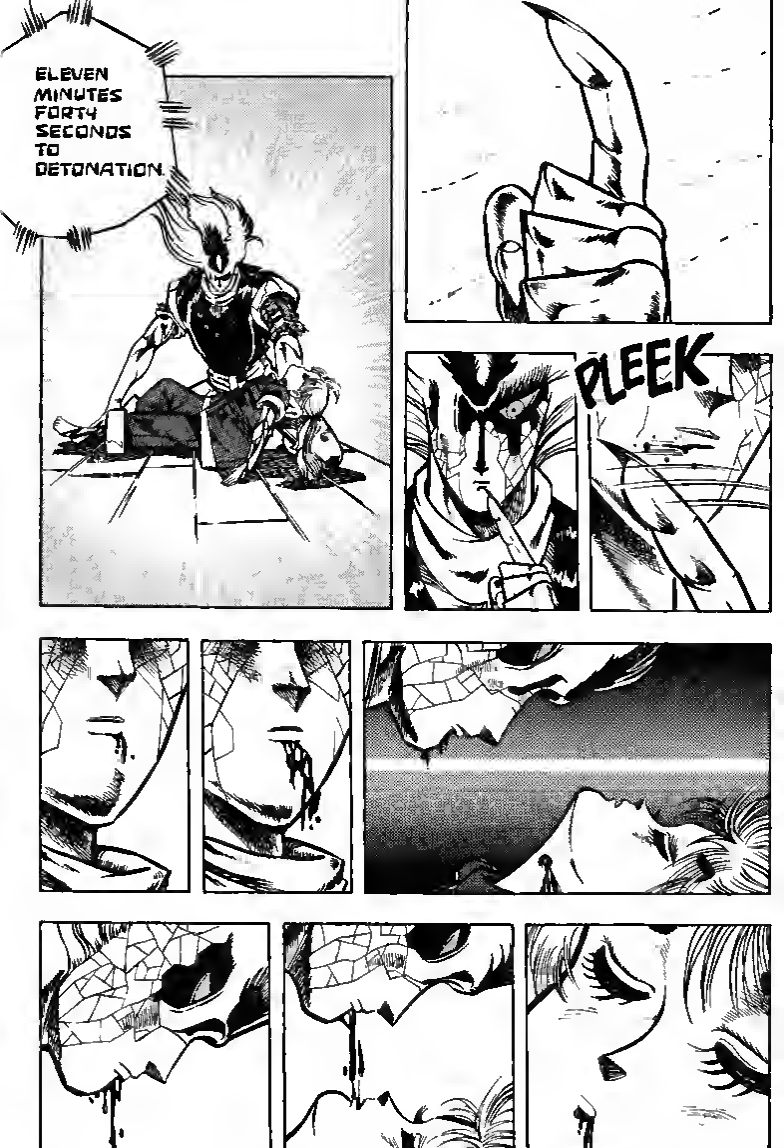

THESE ARE THE BAOH PIERCING NEEDLES!
SSSAWASTCH
THK THK
BUWHRAM


KRASH
tonk
tnktnktnk

WAOOOOOOO

KLANG
CLOSE OFF THE ROOM!
CLOSING SHUTTER SEVENTEEN... EIGHTEEN.. NINETEEN..
KLANG
KLANG KLANG
.. THIRTY... THIRTY-ONE.. THIRTY-TWO.. CLOSURE COMPLETE!
THE LABORATORY IS COMPLETELY SECURE, PROFESSOR HAZYEYE! THE ROOM IS LOCKED TIGHT!
EVEN FOR BAOH..
...IT WOULD TAKE FIVE MINUTES TO TEAR DOWN EVEN A SINGLE SHUTTER!
MY COLLEAGUES!
THE SHORTEST ESCAPE ROUTE IS THROUGH EIGHT STEEL PANELS!
THE TIME HAS COME TO PLAY OUR TRUMP CARD!
IT IS NOT AN EASY CARD TO PLAY...

...IN FIFTEEN MINUTES, I AM GOING TO BLOW UP THIS ENTIRE RESEARCH INSTITUTE!
IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT BAOH BE INCINERATED WHILE WE HAVE IT CONFINED.
LEAVE YOUR POST AND QUICKLY GET AT LEAST ONE KILOMETER FROM HERE!
I PRAY YOU ESCAPE UNHARMED.
KRUNCH
AOOGA
AOOGA
AOOGA
SELF-DETONATION WILL COMMENCE IN FIFTEEN MINUTES.
AOOGA
AOOGA
AOOGA
SELF-DETONATION CANNOT BE TERMINATED. REPEAT...


ELEVEN MINUTES FORTY SECONDS TO DETONATION.
PLEEK

BAOH SENSED IT...
...THE FAINT SCENT THAT VIOLET WAS ALIVE
IF HE ACTS NOW, HE CAN HEAL HER WOUNDS-- WITH THE BLOOD OF BAOH!
BUT WHAT IS THE USE OF REVIVING HER JUST TO WITNESS THE FIERY BLAST THAT BURNS HER LIFE AWAY?
FOR A CHILD TO FACE THE FEAR OF DEATH'S EMBRACE ONCE IS PAIN ENOUGH.
I SWORE I WOULD SAVE THIS GIRL! I SWORE IT TO MYSELF! MYSELF!
I WILL NOT GIVE UP HOPE! I HAVE THE LIFE-FORCE TO SURVIVE EVEN THIS!

TEN MINUTES AND TWENTY SECONDS TO DETONATION
RM RM RM
WHA ?!
WALKEN!
MY GOD! IT'S OFF!
HE'S ALIVE!
WA--!
WALKEN'S HEADGEAR! IT CAN'T BE..!

THE SCIENTISTS STAND IN FEAR
KNOWING THAT ONLY THE HEADGEAR KEEPS WALK'EN'S POWERFUL TELEKINESIS UNDER CONTROL.
WA... KEN...!
BOK
PLOK
BOK
PLOK
SKEESH
SKARRREEK
blip
blup

EEEYAGH!
SKA
BLOOMPH
BAOH... FIGHT... KILL...
BURY...

RM RM RM RM RM RM RM RM RM RM
KRNK
KRUNK
EHONK
IKURO! WATCH OUT!
blaglup blup

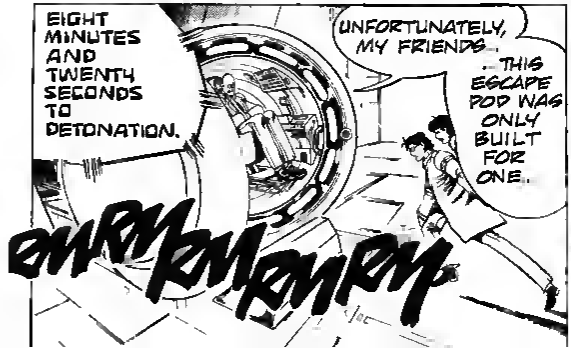
SLAM

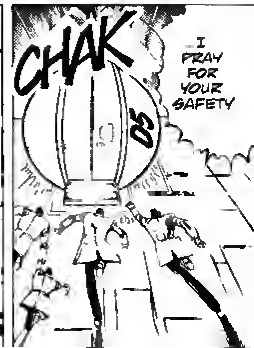
SMASH
SMASH
SMASH

WALKEN!

THAT SHAKING-- THROUGH THE WHOLE COMPLEX! IT MUST BE WALKEN'S POWER!
RUMBLE

NO!
BAOH WAS TOO CONCERNED WITH SAVING THE GIRL! HE LEFT WALKEN WITHOUT KILLING HIM!
AND WITH HIS ESP-DAMPER DESTROYED IN THE BATTLE, WALKEN IS UNSTOPPABLE!


EIGHT MINUTES AND TWENTY SECONDS TO DETONATION.
UNFORTUNATELY, MY FRIENDS...
...THIS ESCAPE POD WAS ONLY BUILT FOR ONE.
RUMBLE


CHAK
I PRAY FOR YOUR SAFETY

YOU... BAOH...
RM RM RM RM
EARTH... OPEN... BAOH... COME... DIE...
RM RM RM
KRAK KR
KREK

KAKK
NOW! HELL! BURN! SMASH! BAOH!
KRNCH
blup
blip
bloop

RM
RM
RM
RM
RM
RM
RM
RM
RM
DON'T WORRY, VIOLET! IT'S OKAY!

WAOOMOO
SPLOSH
I'VE PLUNGED INTO...
SKAT

...THE CAVERNS!
WALKEN'S RUNAWAY POWER HAS PIERCED THROUGH ALMOST A KILOMETER OF SOLID ROCK!

BLOOSH
GSSSSS
RWRWRM
RM

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO FIGHT WITH HIM NOW!
ANY DESTRUCTION IS BOUND TO ENDANGER VIOLET!

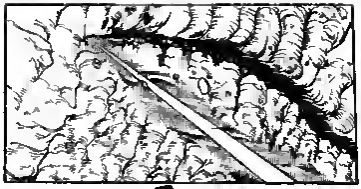
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?
?
IKURO! DON'T GO! I WANT TO BE WITH YOU!
TOOM
ARE YOU TRYING TO POINT THE WAY OUT...?
CHUK CHUK CHUK
UHGH!
GYAH!
I MUST LURE HIM IN!
INTO THE CAVERNS...

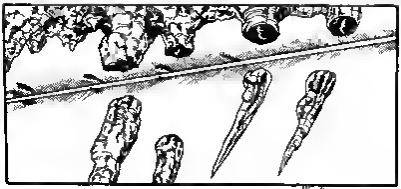
RUN, VIOLET! PLEASE ESCAPE SAFELY!
BLISH, BLOOSH
GNARR!
IKURO!
GYAARK YAARR
ARR
GYAARK YAARR
YAARR AIRA GYAARK
ARR AIRA ARR YAARR
IT'S BACH AND WALKEN!

--A LASER CANNON!
AND BAOH, IN HIS HAND--
YAHHHH!
BUT IN ORDER TO FIRE IT, HE'LL NEED A HIGH VOLTAGE POWER SUPPLY...
..A POWER SUPPLY.
BArooo BArooo BAroooo
GUAR!
IT'S THERE!
POWER ENOUGH TO FIRE THE LASER CANNON

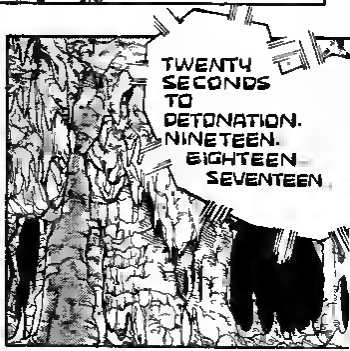
SKREE!
THE BAOH PULSE OF DARK THUNDER!
SKEAL
ZZAPP

SIZEEIZ!





Splutch

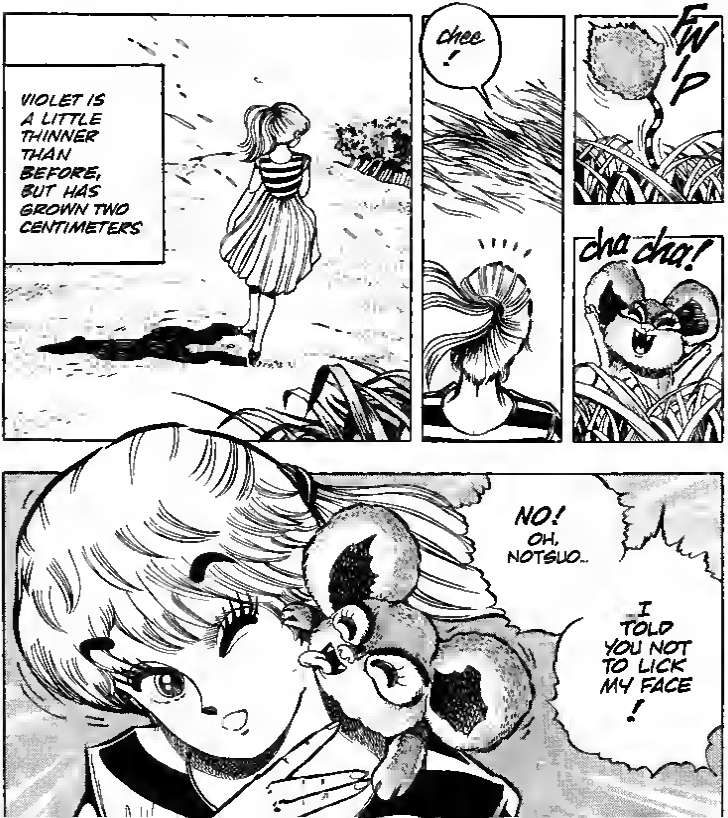

TWENTY SECONDS TO DETONATION.
NINETEEN.
EIGHTEEN
SEVENTEEN

BAOH, MY CREATION...
...IT IS TOO LATE. THE EXPLOSION WILL SHATTER THESE CAVERNS.
heh. heh. ehh IF YOU AND I DIE.. JUDAS'S EXPERIMENT WILL ALSO BE FINISHED.
Heh. heh. ehh..
FIVE
FOUR
THREE
TWO
ONE
ZERO
THIS IMPENETRABLE CAVERN, DEEP UNDERGROUND. TRULY A SUITABLE GRAVE FOR US
FAREWELL, BAOH! AND FAREWELL, YOUNG BOY!
BABLAM

THE EXPLOSION WAS THE WORST IN RECENT MEMORY, BUT RECEIVED LITTLE NEWS COVERAGE.
"SIX DEAD," WAS THE OFFICIAL PRONOUNCEMENT. "TWO INJURED." THE CAUSE? "MISHANDLING OF EXPLOSIVE CHEMICALS BY A PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY."
THE JUDAS GROUP WAS NEVER MENTIONED.

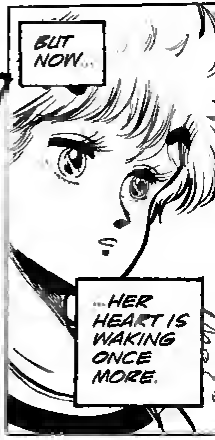
WITHIN A FEW MONTHS THE INCIDENT WAS FORGOTTEN

Epilogue


VIOLET IS A LITTLE THINNER THAN BEFORE, BUT HAS GROWN TWO CENTIMETERS
chee!
FWIP
cha cha!
NO! OH, NOTSUO..
I TOLD YOU NOT TO LICK MY FACE!

AFTER THE EXPLOSION, THE LITTLE ORPHAN AGAIN HAD NOWHERE TO GO, NO PLACE TO CALL HOME.

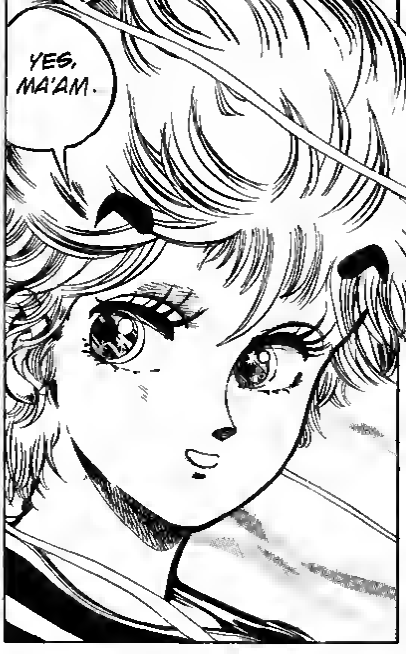
SHE WAS LEFT WITH ONLY FEAR.. AND DEEP SORROW.
BABLAM


BUT NOW...
...HER HEART IS WAKING ONCE MORE.

IKURO IS ALIVE..
..HE IS ONLY ASLEEP.. QUIET... COMFORTABLE.. AT PEACE..

"I SEE HIM, NOTSUO...
"...SEE HIM SLEEPING AT THE BOTTOM OF THAT LAKE.
"...AND THEN WE'LL MEET AGAIN.
"THAT IS MY VISION. THAT IS WHAT I SEE."
"HE WILL AWAKEN FROM THE WATER WHEN I AM SEVENTEEN...
"HE WILL WAKE UP, I'M SURE.

THOK


YES, MA'AM.

VIOLET!
WOULD YOU BRING IN THE LOSS PA IS SPLITTING?

SEEING HER BRIGHT, LOVING SMILE, THE OLD WOMAN MADE HER OWN PREDICTION.

" VIOLET WILL FIND HAPPINESS IN THE FUTURE "
THE END